



WHITMAN COLLEGE



EXPLORE THE INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES
OF WHITMAN STUDENTS!



2013 ISSUE

Whittie Internships

This summer, more Whitman students than ever put their liberal arts educations to work with internships funded by the Whitman Internship Grant. This summer, there were 125 interns; last summer, there were 82.

Money raised during the *Now Is the Time Campaign* supports the internship program. A targeted funding effort by the Parents Leadership Committee, support for the David Stevens Internship Endowment and gifts from individual donors have transformed the internship program and increased the opportunities for Whitman students. In addition, Trustee Andy Ferrari '68 and his wife, Barbara Quagliata Ferrari, provided funding for summer environmental studies internships. In 2012-13, the newly established Don and Virginia Sherwood Trust Internship Endowment provided students with additional opportunities with local nonprofits.

EXPLORE THE EXPERIENCES!





Beth Levin '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: HARPERONE PUBLISHING COMPANY, SAN FRANCISCO

MAJOR: ENGLISH

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I am an editorial intern, and my responsibilities include assessing book proposals (both off the street proposals and big ones) and then writing a report describing why I would or would not advocate that HarperOne take on the project. I have learned a variety of practical skills, including how to write formal letters for all occasions, from sending checks to authors, to mailing early galley copies of books to prospective contributors. I have also learned to write search engine optimizations, which are harder to write than one would think."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"The most rewarding aspect is probably the ability to be surrounded by so many books and book ideas and watching the thought of a book slowly become a reality. I definitely think this internship has deepened my love of books, and even though entering book data into a very outdated database can be frustrating sometimes, my hunger for all things book-related, no matter how insignificant, has definitely grown. I have a real knack for feeling out a proposal and writing book proposal assessments, and my supervisor has come to value my insights. That means a lot to me."



Zach Galo '16

INTERNSHIP SITE: IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, PORTLAND, ORE.

MAJOR: UNDECLARED

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“My main responsibility is tutoring individual clients in a number of different subjects. I work with some individuals once a week, and with others, I will work with them four times a week; it depends on the person. Communication is key here, especially with tutoring itself, efficiently scheduling tutoring sessions, and being able to talk with my clients in general. To be able to communicate across different cultures with people from all over the world is something that I would most certainly consider a skill, and it is a skill that I believe I have developed at IRCO.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“First there are my co-workers. They are each remarkably kind and supportive, and I have greatly enjoyed getting to know them. Second, I very much enjoy working with the people whom I tutor. They are all around my age, but they come from different areas of the world. I consider myself lucky to be able to work with all of the people I work with, and there are a few that I see often and feel that I know well. At IRCO in general, I see people who have come from all over the globe, and I hear many languages spoken. I feel very fortunate to be working at the meeting point of so many different cultures.”



Emily Jones '16

INTERNSHIP SITE: MOBIUS SCIENCE CENTER, SPOKANE, WASH.

MAJOR: UNDECLARED

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“Throughout my shift, I usually have at least one demonstration, but sometimes as many as three or four. Demonstrations involve either ‘Reptile Encounters’ or various experiments/activities corresponding to that week’s theme. I’ve always been shy, so these demonstrations are a good way for me to develop my public speaking skills. I’ve learned how to salvage unsuccessful demonstrations and turn them into learning opportunities.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“Without a doubt, the most rewarding part is the interactions I have with kids every day. Few things have ever felt as fulfilling – I honestly feel that working at Mobius has confirmed my desire to be an elementary school teacher. When kids approach me to pet their worst fear and realize how soft and beautiful pythons are, I feel satisfied knowing that I’ve opened their minds. ‘Can you feel his spine?’ I’ll ask. ‘Now, can you feel yours?’ Or, better yet: ‘When he sticks his tongue out, that’s how he smells you.’ I love the look of wonder that follows this or any other sort of discovery that I facilitate. I love it when kids slip their hand into mine and tug me along to see things. I love discovering that they like drawing too and then connecting that to the exhibits we have. It’s such a pleasure and an honor to share the learning experience with them.”



Genta Ohgushi '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: SUMMER CAMP, MOUNT TABOR MIDDLE SCHOOL, PORTLAND, ORE.

MAJOR: ASIAN STUDIES

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“My primary responsibilities are creating all of the paperwork for the summer camp, supervising volunteers, serving as a disciplinary vice-principal and occasionally working in the classroom. All of the administrators and teachers are from Japan and speak very little English. Additionally, everything is performed very professionally, which is reflected in the style of Japanese language that is used. In this way, this experience has vastly improved my professional Japanese, which I am sure will prove invaluable in any Japanese business environment in the future. Through my role as a vice-principal of the summer camp, it is my responsibility to work with children who frequently misbehave. In this capacity, I have learned a great deal about what approaches children respond well to in a disciplinary situation. Finally, I have learned a number of great ideas for teaching Japanese to children.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“The most rewarding aspect of my internship is watching my Japanese improve by finding it easier and easier to communicate with my co-workers and superiors, and finding solutions for children when they are having difficulties behaving.”



Katie Myers '15

INTERNSHIP SITE: OFFICE OF REP. MIKE SIMPSON, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAJOR: POLITICS

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I act as the first point of contact on the phones, open and sort the mail, help the legislative staff with special projects and write correspondence. I've been able to develop my networking skills, which were severely lacking before coming to Capitol Hill. Here, every person you meet, every connection you make, could be a future employer or, at the very least, someone who can put you in contact with an employer. I'm also learning how to thrive in a high pressure environment. The legislative staff bases many of their reports to Congress on data I've given them, so I always need to be producing top level work, no matter how busy I am."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"There are two parts of my internship that I would consider most rewarding. The first is helping the legislative staff with projects that they either don't have time to do or need an extra hand with. I was able to help the legislative director write a statement for the Congressional record about health care, and to be able to say, 'I wrote that,' about something that's in the permanent record of the 113th Congress is an incredible feeling. The other most rewarding part of my internship is giving tours to constituents of the Capitol building. I love to point out the quirky and beautiful things in the building and get people as excited about Congress as I am."



Meghan White '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS SEA LABORATORY

MAJOR: BIOLOGY AND GEOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I am responsible for working side-by-side with two marine biologists to help with research, recovery and upkeep of the rescued animals on site. Equipped with my hard hat, gloves and net, I help my supervisors save marine organisms from power plants, harbors and oil rigs. Through this process, I have learned firsthand how human industry and pollution negatively affect these organisms and how to properly handle every creature from a horn shark to an octopus. Once they are fully recovered, I release them back into the ocean. In addition, I lead daily educational tours of the SEA Laboratory facility to the public, which has improved my public speaking and knowledge of the animals. Finally, I am spearheading a coral reef rehabilitation project on site. This experience has taught me how to lead and complete an architectural project on my own that will lead to groundbreaking research."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"Seeing the children's faces light up after I teach and show them all of the marine animals during the educational tours is the most rewarding aspect of my internship. I feel in my element when I am teaching, because I can talk about my current research along with informing people about how they affect the ocean. This is a time when I can apply all of the information that my supervisors have taught me and my previous knowledge from my Whitman marine biology course to educate others. Love it!"



Maxwell Reikosky '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: INCARCERATED VOICES RADIO PROGRAM

MAJOR: PHILOSOPHY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“I receive letters from prisoners and analyze them by answering questions posed by Incarcerated Voices (the radio program I am conducting research for). I transcribe phone calls, conduct voiceover acting interviews and other forms of administrative work. In addition to analytical work, I write articles for the newsletter we put out every three months. This has been the most engaging aspect of my internship because it allows me to take much of what I have learned at Whitman and apply it to the incarceration system (for instance, using Emersonian philosophy to encourage prisoners to exercise their ability to choose freely what to think).”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“I gain great practice writing as a letter transcriber/analyst, insight into the nature of prison life, internship experience (including a potential recommendation from a supervisor in the future and the stipend from Whitman College (I get paid to do what I’m interested in!!)). The most rewarding aspect, however, has been the chance to write articles with a topic of my choice. This is one of the most exciting opportunities that has ever been presented to me. Though it is a small newsletter, writing about philosophy and the prison system is my passion, and to succeed in such a field would be spiritually fulfilling and fun.”



Nelson Falkenburg '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: THURSTON COUNTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, OLYMPIA, WASH.

MAJOR: ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I provide research support for Deputy Prosecuting Attorneys in the office's Civil Division, which involves locating historic cases that support current cases under argument. I support the administrative staff by helping them process Public Record Requests, including the redaction of sensitive materials and record-keeping. I have also drafted ordinances, attended hearings and argument, and met with County Commissioners on land-use planning issues. Like my responsibilities, the skills I'm developing are varied. I can critically read and edit legal documents, I can navigate County and State code, I have a working understanding of the legal system and process, my writing is more careful and concise, and I'm learning the finer points of working in a government office."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"One very rewarding aspect is a working understanding of the county and state justice systems. A certain amount can be gleaned from reading about the different courts, or the appeals process, or zoning regulations, but to see these things first-hand, connected to specific issues and people, has allowed me to engage in the entire process more deeply and holistically. Another rewarding aspect that merits attention is the working relationships I've made with coworkers who may be decades older, have children and mortgages, but still treat me with respect and help guide me."



Maddison Coons '15

INTERNSHIP SITE: STUDIOS ON THE PARK, PASO ROBLES, CALIF.

MAJOR: ART

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“I have worked on updating Studio’s mailing list, updating and organizing inventory and keeping track of what sells, who buys it and where the money goes. I am also learning so much about how a non-profit organization runs, especially in the arts. Setting up for meetings/classes, working on their monthly e-mail blast, greeting visitors, wrapping items sold and helping with exhibit installation have all been a part of my job. My responsibilities are always changing and always allowing me to experience something new. My communication skills are improving, and I’m learning what it means to be flexible in a work place.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“The most rewarding aspect of my internship is being surrounded by so much art and so many working artists. The artists have talked to me about their art, how they got to Studios and their art making process. I will go into an artist’s studio where he or she is working on a piece and ask one question that will lead to 20 more, and many artists have been open to sharing their stories with me. I have even had artists who have offered to give me a lesson in their medium. It’s rewarding to be in an environment where people are doing what they love to do and want to share it with others, and I am so lucky to be a part of it this summer.”



Laura West '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: DUWAMISH RIVER CLEANUP COALITION, SEATTLE

MAJOR: ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - GEOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“At the beginning of my internship, DRCC was finishing up a public comment period about the EPA’s proposed plan to clean up the Superfund site that is on the Duwamish River in South Seattle. I helped gather comments and then submitted them to the EPA. That ended in mid-June. Since then, I have been assisting my supervisor in planning the 8th Annual Duwamish River Festival. Last year, there were about 45 booths and multiple dance performances. I have contacted more than 60 organizations in Seattle and raised \$12,250, as well as thousands of dollars of in-kind donations. I have been gaining communication, organizational, and community outreach skills. I am also making network connections with people in many different organizations that will maybe help me in my future career search. Just by being actively involved with a non-profit and attending staff meetings, I am gaining a sense of what is important to me in a work setting.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“It has been rewarding to successfully raise money for this festival, especially since my supervisor thought we wouldn’t be able to raise as much money as we raised last year – but we actually raised more! I think the most rewarding part will be actually attending the festival in August and seeing all the community members enjoying the festival that I helped plan.”



Cat Mulanax '16

INTERNSHIP SITE: DR. KIMBERLY HENRY PLASTIC SURGERY, GREENBRAE, CALIF.

MAJOR: BIOCHEMISTRY, BIOPHYSICS AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“My current responsibilities are rooming patients, taking their vital signs, communicating to the patient what will happen during the procedure, setting up surgical equipment and instruments for surgery, assisting the plastic surgeon during procedures in the operating room with any tasks requested, maintaining sterile conditions at all times in the operating room, monitoring the patient and equipment during the surgery, completing necessary charting and paperwork for each patient, photographing patients before and after procedure, transporting patients to and from the OR, tending to patients in the recovery room and cleaning the OR and instruments.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“Being able to change someone’s life in such a powerful way is the most rewarding. I look forward to seeing patients before their surgery and getting to know them. Then, once the procedure is complete and they come in a week later for their post-op, it is wonderful to see the miraculous improvements and changes. Helping others is what I love to do, and I think this profession is built exactly around that.”



Hayley Grandine '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: THE HOPE HEART INSTITUTE, BELLEVUE, WASH.

MAJOR: BIOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“I have a lot of different responsibilities, such as planning and working at community outreach events, developing new outreach materials and amending old ones. Through planning outreach events, I have gained skills in collaborating with co-workers and brainstorming fresh ideas. While at these events, I have learned to provide health education in different ways to many different types of people. By working on outreach materials I have learned what kind of information is most effective depending on the target audience.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“I really love working with the public, and it is a great feeling to use the outreach tools that I have helped develop and see people respond in a way that shows that the interaction has been meaningful for them. Also, I think it has been extremely valuable to get the experience of working full-time in an office setting, which is something that is part of most kinds of jobs one might have after graduating from college, but something that is not often found in typical summer jobs available for high school and college students. I love the feeling of coming home from work in the evening feeling that I have accomplished something that day, which is something I have never gotten from working my usual part-time summer job.”



WASHINGTON STATE NETWORK



Brian Choe '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: WASHINGTON SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER, WALLA WALLA

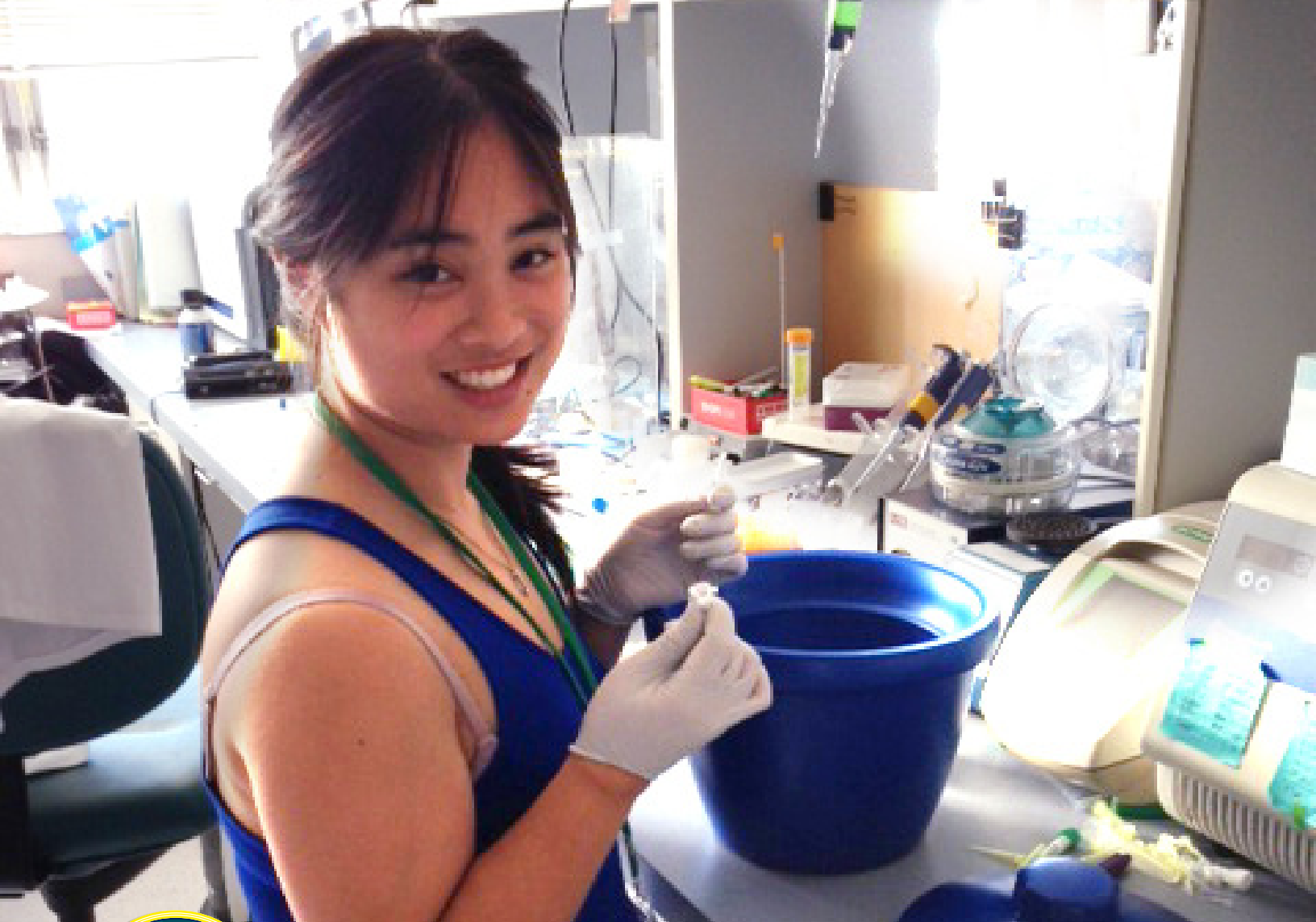
MAJOR: ECONOMICS

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“My current responsibilities consist of working directly with my supervisor and local businesses and entrepreneurs in the development of business plans, marketing research, finances/cash flow and business loans. These responsibilities have given me hands-on practice for practical business skills. I’ve polished my communication skills by learning through my adviser in meetings, on the phone and email. I have a good understanding of what it takes to run a successful small business.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“The most rewarding aspect is being able to see someone’s aspirations and desires come into action. I am able to show up at their location and see how the client is doing. Knowing that my advice is helping their business is very rewarding.”



Cindy Chang '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: OREGON HEALTH & SCIENCE UNIVERSITY, PORTLAND, ORE.

MAJOR: BIOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“My current responsibilities include genotyping mice, performing mouse perfusions, assisting with mouse surgeries, making solutions and assisting with other research tasks as needed. I am fully confident in performing gel electrophoresis (part of the process of genotyping). I am certified through OHSU in mouse and rat handling. I am growing more confident in my abilities to perform perfusions, which includes doing very detailed work inside a mouse and making sure you don’t puncture any major organs. My motor skills are becoming very refined. All in all, I’m honing and developing a great many lab skills and learning to use lots of lab equipment which will definitely prove useful in the future, which is what I had hoped to do with this internship.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“This internship has given me the opportunity to practice lab techniques over and over again to the point where I’m fully comfortable doing them, and I think that’s a huge asset, because it’s not an opportunity I’d normally have at Whitman. I’m also truly appreciative for the opportunity to experience what working in a research lab is like, because I’ve never been exposed to something like this before. Now I can make an informed decision about whether or not research is a career field I’d like to go into.”



Fernando



Fernando Augusto Medina Corey '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: WASHINGTON COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY, WALLA WALLA
MAJOR: POLITICS AND PHILOSOPHY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I have been in charge of several research projects on different content management and constituent/donor management systems for the organization. This has given me an opportunity to develop concrete experiences with several systems used by political advocacy and organizing groups, as well as many corporations. Secondly, I have researched, implemented and educated others on the workings of several social media tools and practices. As such, we have been posting regularly on social media sites and have targeted when our activity can be most beneficial. I also organized and moderated a Twitter 'tweet chat' for the organization which reached over 20,000 Twitter accounts and raised our Twitter following. Lastly, I have been working on various projects for the Seattle office. I conducted legislative research on elected officials in order to determine their potential for supporting our goals. I have also been preparing other documents for office use and distribution."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"Working on a non-partisan issue that I truly believe in has been rewarding in itself. But I have also been grateful to be exposed to legislative advocacy, an area that I have been looking to become involved in for some time. Additionally, the exposure to CiviCRM and other CRM systems is excellent practical experience to have."



Erik Anderson '15

INTERNSHIP SITE: JOSEPHY LIBRARY OF WESTERN HISTORY AND CULTURE, JOSEPH, ORE.
MAJOR: ENVIRONMENTAL HUMANITIES

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

"I'm cataloging the private research library of Alvin Josephy, the foremost Indian historian and activist in recent American history. I am learning to catalog using the Library of Congress system. I assign value and worth to volumes, assist in the creation of promotional and academic material, and assist with the running of a small, rural, cultural nonprofit."

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

"I get to meet a lot of interesting patrons who use the library for research on the Nez Perce and the West. My supervisor has vast connections with national and local authors and historians, who come and visit. I also get time to read and polish my essaying skills. In addition, cataloging Josephy's entire collection is rewarding unto itself. It provides me with the motivation to achieve a workable goal."



Carrie Walker '14

INTERNSHIP SITE: WHALE RESEARCH LAB, SAN JUAN ISLAND, WASH.

MAJOR: BIOLOGY

INTERNSHIP DESCRIPTION

“Whale Research Lab is one of the only land-based studies of the killer whale in the world. When the whales pass through our study area, we document as much as we can about the IDs and the behaviors of whales passing by. My responsibility is to take photo IDs of the individual whales. I spend a lot of time entering and analyzing the huge amount of data. I also spend a great deal of time talking to tourists and educating them about the whales. People come from all over the world to visit the park and see these creatures.”

BEST ASPECT OF YOUR INTERNSHIP

“The most rewarding part of this internship was definitely having the opportunity to be so close to the whales so many times. Each time one passed, I felt elated, humbled, awestruck and so incredibly lucky to see these beautiful creatures in their natural habitat. Since the whales haven’t been coming around nearly as much this summer, it has fostered some important conversations about the destructive nature of the human race and how our relationship with the environment, and especially salmon, is affecting these whales. I have realized how a passion for the orca has united so many humans around the world, and it is humbling and exciting to be a part of that network.”



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